

Tips and Tricks for social networking sites:

- Be Polite- don't use foul language
- Be careful who you accept as a friend- basic rule is if you do not know them do not add them
- Assume that everything you post on your social networking site is permanent even if you delete it.
- Talk with your children about being safe on social networking sites.
- Be yourself- do not be fake
- Be professional- you never know when your employer or perspective employer is looking at your profile.



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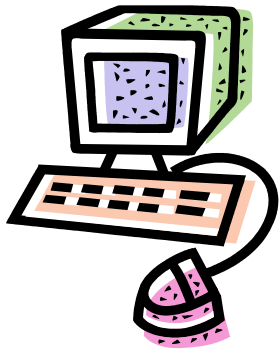
Fort Frances Public Library

facebook



twitter

Safe use of
Facebook and other
online social
networking sites.



With social networking sites like Facebook, MySpace and Twitter are becoming more popular all the time and being used by people of all ages, it's essential to learn how to protect yourself and how to use these website safely as there are many risks associated with them.

It is easy to get caught up in the negative aspects but these sites are also very useful in staying in touch with family and friends.

Ways to protect yourself:

- Be cautious when installing applications that work with the social networking site. Examples are calendar programs and games.
- Keep updated virus protection to avoid spyware and adware that social networking sites **may** place on your computer
- Be careful not to fall for scams that arrive via email or on your wall, providing a link for you to click, leading to a fake login page.
- Only accept friend requests from people you know.
- Visit your profile's security and privacy settings. You should keep your privacy settings to "only friends". Opening it up to others opens your information up to a much larger group of unknown people. Your privacy and may be at risk. People you do not know may be looking at you, your home, your kids, your grandkids, - your lives.
- Never post information such as your phone numbers, addresses (including work), SIN and banking information.

Why we like these sites:

- They allow for easy and free communication between family and friends that might live away from each other.
- They provide photo sharing, so it's easy to stay up to date.
- It's easy to find old friends and reconnect with them.

Some Guidelines:

- Do not use language that is derogatory, defamatory, obscene, or hurtful to another person.
- Exercise caution with regards to exaggeration, colorful language, guesswork, obscenity, copyrighted materials, and legal conclusions.
- Post only what you want the world to see. Imagine your parents, your children, your boss or co-workers visiting your site. Is what you posted going to make you look bad? If one of your friends posted the same thing how would it make you feel?